

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:RECOMBS:VT
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON

----- 110715

R 280429Z JUN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS STATE 153200

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (HUMPHREY, HUBERT AND SCOTT, HUGH), PFOR,
PINT, UR, US
SUBJECT: CODEL HUMPHREY: ACTIVIST PROPOSALS ON EMIGRATION
AND TRADE

REF: MOSCOW 8554, 8469

FOLLOWING IS SUBSTANCE OF JUNE 27 BALTIMORE SUN ARTICLE
BY MICHAEL PARKS ON JEWISH ACTIVIST PROPOSALS ON TRADE AND
EMIGRATION. QUOTE:

JEWISH ACTIVISTS HERE ARE PREPARING COMPROMISE PROPOSALS
FOR A NEW SOVIET-AMERICAN AGREEMENT ON INCREASED EMIGRATION
OF SOVIET JEWS AND THE NORMALIZATION OF TRADE RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

ONE PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR THE VIRTUAL REPEAL OF THE JACK-
SON AMENDMENT, WHICH PROHIBITS AMERICAN TRADE CONCESSIONS
UNLESS THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN EMIGRATION. A
SECOND WOULD MODIFY THE JACKSON AMENDMENT SUBSTANTIALLY.

BOTH PROPOSALS, STILL BEING FORMULATED, WILL BE PRESENTED
TO A DELEGATION OF 16 UNITED STATES SENATORS ARRIVING HERE
TOMORROW ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT.

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ALTHOUGH THE PROPOSALS DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY, THEY ARE
THE FIRST EFFORT TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE FOLLOWING THE
COLLAPSE OF THE 1972 US-SOVIET TRADE AGREEMENT LAST
DECEMBER WHEN MOSCOW REJECTED THE TERMS IMPOSED BY THE US

CONGRESS FOR THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF TRADE.

JEWISH ACTIVISTS HERE ARE DIVIDED, HOWEVER, OVER THE TWO MAIN PROPOSALS, AND IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THEY WILL BE ABLE TO UNITE ON ONE BEFORE THEY MEET WITH THE AMERICAN SENATORS.

ONE PROPOSAL WOULD ACCEPT THE REPEAL OF THE JACKSON AMENDMENT, SUBSTITUTING A NEW SOVIET-AMERICAN UNDERSTANDING TYING INCREASED EMIGRATION TO PROGRESS ON VIRTUALLY ALL BILATERAL ISSUES FROM INCREASED TRADE TO SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES TO ARMS CONTROL.

BUT THE UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE IMPLICIT AND NOT WRITTEN IN THE TOUGH LANGUAGE OF THE JACKSON AMENDMENT. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW EVERY SIX MONTHS OR ANNUALLY WOULD INSURE COMPLIANCE, ACCORDING TO THE PROPOSAL.

THE OTHER PRINCIPAL PROPOSAL WOULD KEEP THE FRAMEWORK OF THE JACKSON AMENDMENT, BUT ACCEPT SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATION SO THAT THE LANGUAGE MOSCOW OBJECTED TO MOST STRONGLY WOULD BE REMOVED AND PRESIDENT FORD WOULD BE ALLOWED TO GRANT TRADE CONCESSIONS, SUCH AS REDUCED TARIFFS FOR SOVIET GOODS AND GOVERNMENT-BACKED CREDITS, WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

BOTH PROPOSALS STEM FROM THE SERIOUS CONCERN OF JEWISH ACTIVISTS HERE OVER THE SHARP DECLINE IN EMIGRATION SINCE DECEMBER AND WHAT THEY FEEL IS AN INCREASE IN POLICE PRESSURE TO BREAK THE EMIGRATION MOVEMENT AND SILENCE ITS LEADERS.

SOME ACTIVISTS FEEL THAT THE HARD, UNCOMPROMISING STAND TAKEN BY SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON (D., WASH.), A CANDIDATE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION NEXT YEAR, HAS BACKFIRED, AND THEY NOW ARE SEARCHING FOR MORE MOD-

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ERATE SUPPORTERS IN WASHINGTON.

BUT THIS VIEW IS FAR FROM UNIVERSAL AMONG JEWISH ACTIVISTS IN MOSCOW, THOUGH MOST FEEL SOME COMPROMISE MUST BE WORKED OUT SOON.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS HAVE SEEN LITTLE PROSPECT FOR RESOLVING THE IMPASSE OVER EMIGRATION AND TRADE UNTIL NOW BECAUSE OF THE UNCOMPROMISING STAND OF JEWISH GROUPS HERE

AND OF THEIR SUPPORTERS IN THE US.

A SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL SPECULATED, HOWEVER, THAT IF THE JEWISH ACTIVISTS CAN AGREE ON A COMPROMISE PROPOSAL

ACCEPTABLE TO SOVIET AUTHORITIES AND IF IT WINS APPROVAL
IN WASHINGTON FROM CONGRESS, THE DEADLOCK COULD BE BROKEN
THIS FALL.

ACTIVISTS WOULD HOPE THIS WOULD LEAD TO A GREATER
GROWTH OF EMIGRANTS -- THE AVERAGE HAS DROPPED TO LESS
THAN 1,000 A MONTH, A THIRD THE RATE OF 1973, THE PEAK --
AND TO EASING SECRET POLICE PRESSURE ON THEM.

IN FORMULATING THEIR PROPOSALS, THE TWO PRINCIPAL GROUPS
OF ACTIVISTS, WHO ARE VIRTUAL RIVALS NOW FOR SUPPORT HERE
AND ABROAD, BOTH ARE AVOIDING ANY QUOTA OF EMIGRANTS, SUCH
AS THE 60,000 ANNUAL RATE DEMANDED BY SENATOR JACKSON
AND SEEN AS COMPLETELY UNREALISTIC BY JEWISH SPOKESMEN
HERE NOW.

BOTH GROUPS ALSO RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO ALLOW MOSCOW A
WAY OF SAVING FACE IF IT ACCEPTS THE COMPROMISE, EVEN
IF THIS MEANS THAT THE JEWS' SUPPORTERS IN THE UNITED
STATES MUST BACK DOWN PUBLICLY. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMIGRANTS, JEWS, PRESS COMMENTS, TRADE CONCESSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE153200
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/SOV:RECOMBS:VT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750225-0257
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197506103/baaaanxh.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 971105
Subject: n/a
TAGS: OREP, PFOR, PINT, UR, US, (HUMPHREY, HUBERT), (SCOTT, HUGH)
To: MOSCOW INFO LENINGRAD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006